

Dr. Flint reported an interesting case of filaria sanguinis hominis in a Chinaman successfully treated with hexamethylene-tetramin. The Essayist of the evening, Dr. Chancellor, read a paper of unusual interest, "The Treatment of Tuberculosis with Special Reference to Dietetics," which was discussed favorably by the members present. Drs. P. B. Carter of Guadalupe and F. S. Gould of Santa Barbara were elected to membership in the Society. A resolution was adopted approving of the bill requiring nurses to register, now pending in the Legislature in Sacramento. Dr. Philip S. Chancellor was elected alternate delegate.

W. B. CUNNANE, Secretary.

Shasta County.

At a regular meeting of Shasta County Medical Society held in the city hall, Redding, Cal., January 21, 1905, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Shasta County Medical Society hereby reaffirms and emphasizes its belief in proper vaccination as a protection against smallpox, and that it is further of the decided opinion that inoculation with pure vaccine virus, followed by cleanliness of the wound with good sanitary surroundings, is an entirely harmless and innocent measure. The Secretary is hereby instructed to furnish a copy of the above resolutions to each daily paper in Redding; also one copy to the Secretary of the California State Board of Health, and one to the Secretary of the California State Medical Society.

The Shasta County Medical Society has framed the following resolution: To the Honorable Senate and Assembly of the State of California, in Legislature Assembled:

At a meeting of the Shasta County Medical Society held in Redding, Cal., January 25, 1905, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Shasta County Medical Society is emphatically and unalterably opposed to Assembly Bill No. 267, repealing parts of the present medical law, which we regard as entirely satisfactory and almost ideally perfect, whose validity has recently been sustained by the highest courts of the State; and which protects the profession and the public alike from the charlatan and the quack, and excludes from practice the uneducated graduates from the mercenary and disreputable medical colleges; and substituting provisions which we regard as unfair and unjust, and a virtual repeal of the present eminently satisfactory law.

Resolved, That our representatives be hereby instructed and urged to use every possible endeavor to defeat the passage of said bill, together with all similar attempts to alter, amend or repeal the existing statute.

R. F. WALLACE, Secretary.

Tuolumne County.

In response to an invitation issued by the Secretary, a number of physicians in the county met with Dr. A. W. Morton, of San Francisco, at Sonora, February 4th, and organized the Tuolumne County Medical Society. Dr. E. T. Gould was elected President and Dr. R. Innes Bromley, Vice-President. Dr. C. F. English was elected Secretary and Treasurer. Six physicians were enrolled at this meeting, but it is understood that practically all the doctors in the county will become members.

(We certainly congratulate the physicians of Tuolumne County upon their organization, and sincerely trust that this newest county society may have a long life and a useful one.)

I am sorry to confess that we have not found the micro-organism of yellow fever, although it has been assiduously searched for both in human blood known to contain it and in mosquito.—H. R. Carter in Med. News.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

The California Academy of Medicine.

Regular meeting, held January 24, 1905, the President, Dr. Dudley Tait, being in the chair.

"Operations for Carcinoma of the Breast." Dr. Dudley Tait exhibited a patient upon whom he had operated about seven years previously for adenocarcinoma of the breast. He used the Willy Meyer operation, which is essentially the same as that recently re-described by Warren. It differs from the Halsted in that the operator begins in the upper axilla and proceeds toward the breast. In this way it is possible to secure the larger vessels early in the operation and to save much time which would otherwise be lost in controlling hemorrhage.

"Acute Hodgkin's Disease." Dr. George Blumer reported a case presenting the clinical picture of acute Hodgkin's disease. The patient was a young man, 19 years old, with negative past history except that he had had an accident three months before. The disease began with progressive weakness, nausea, vomiting, and dyspnea. He had some fever in the evening with night sweats. In three months, he had lost thirty pounds in weight. A few days before death, he suffered from some pain in the liver. On examination, he showed a general enlargement of the lymphatic glands and especially of those of the neck, as well as enlargement of the spleen and liver. The heart and urine appeared to be normal. The blood showed 3,656,000 red corpuscles, 8,000 leukocytes, and 54 per cent of hemoglobin. A differential count showed 8 per cent of polymorphonuclear leukocytes, and 92 per cent of mononuclear forms, which were divided into 45 per cent of large cells and 47 per cent of small cells.

At autopsy, the lymph glands, tonsils, spleen, and liver were found to be enlarged. The lymphatic glands contained none of the large cells described by Reed as characteristic of Hodgkin's disease, and no eosinophilic cells. The lymphoid follicles of the spleen were especially enlarged. The kidneys were densely infiltrated with round cells. The bone marrow, though presenting no macroscopic changes, showed on microscopic examination a lymphoid hyperplasia.

Clinically, the patient presented the picture of an acute Hodgkin's disease, with the exception that the mononuclear cells in the blood were relatively very much in excess, whereas it seems that in true Hodgkin's no such increase should occur. Pathologically, however, the case is one of lymphatic leukemia, as shown by the changes in the bone marrow and other organs. It is a case of leukemia in which the cells did not escape in large numbers into the blood, a so-called "aleukemic leukemia." It is doubtful if a true Hodgkin's ever becomes converted into leukemia for histologically they seem to be different processes. It is possible that we shall be able to recognize such a case as this clinically as one of leukemia by the peculiar differential count.

Dr. W. F. Cheney reviewed the work of Reed, who showed that Hodgkin's disease is a pathological entity, characterized by definite histological changes in the lymphatic glands and by the negative results of inoculation experiments.

Dr. Wm. Ophüls doubted if it is possible to separate Hodgkin's disease as sharply as Reed and others have tried to do. In a recent case, he has seen the typical changes described by Reed in the lymph glands, and yet there was a round cell sarcoma of the thymus gland, which was invading neighboring structures.

Dr. P. K. Brown described a dog whose lymphatic glands gradually increased in size. At first the number of leukocytes was not increased but just before death a considerable increase took place.

Dr. Wm. Ophüls stated that he had examined specimens from Dr. Brown's dog and that they presented

the changes of leukemia rather than those of Hodgkin's.

Dr. Blumer stated that the dog apparently showed a similar condition to that of his patient, only that the former's leukocytes had increased before death, whereas the patient's had not. Possibly a differential count made in the early stages would have shown that the dog had had a leukemia.

A. W. HEWLETT, Secretary.

ARMY MEDICAL CORPS EXAMINATIONS.

Preliminary examinations for appointment of Assistant Surgeons in the Army will be held on May 1 and August 1, 1905, at points to be hereafter designated.

Permission to appear for examination can be obtained upon application to the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., from whom full information concerning the examination can be procured. The essential requirements to securing an invitation are that the applicant shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be between 22 and 30 years of age, a graduate of a medical school legally authorized to confer the degree of doctor of medicine, shall be of good moral character and habits, and shall have had at least one year's hospital training or its equivalent in practice. The examinations will be held concurrently throughout the country at points where boards can be convened. Due consideration will be given to the localities from which applications are received, in order to lessen the traveling expenses of applicants as much as possible.

In order to perfect all necessary arrangements for the examinations of May 1st, applications must be complete and in possession of the Surgeon-General on or before April 1st, and for the examination of August 1st, on or before July 1st. Early attention is therefore enjoined upon all intended applicants.

There are at present twenty vacancies in the Medical Corps of the Army.

AN OPINION FROM VIRGINIA.

"We are very much in sympathy with that excellent and high-class publication, THE CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE, in its severe arraignment of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* for ethical laxity, if not for its gross violation of ethics.

We are not surprised at all at the course of the *A. M. A. Journal*, for we have watched these enterprises so frequently born and launched to fill a crying need of reformation and purification of the medical profession, develop rapidly into foul-smelling pawnshops where men who should be above such nastiness put their good names "in soak" for a very small recompense and soothe their consciences with the idea that no one will openly cast a stone at such high-sounding publications.

The *Journal of the A. M. A.* was originated to make money, and it has to compete with other publications in the same field, and it is and has been for a long time a disgrace to that portion of the profession it purports to represent. We are perfectly willing to accord the *Journal* the right of conducting its business as it sees fit, and as it has an unquestioned right to do; but we are unwilling to have it competing with the rest of the world in its priestly garb when it is guilty of more heinous offenses than those who make no pretensions to the faith!

All honor to THE CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE for its utterances of protest against the irregularities of this journal which it is called upon to support with its allegiance and its dollars. . . .

—*The Southern Clinic* (February, 1905).

PROPRIETARY PREPARATIONS EXCLUDED FROM NORWAY.

The *Druggists' Circular* for February has a most excellent editorial on this subject. Last August, by royal proclamation, all secret remedies were excluded from Norway, and they may not even be advertised in Norwegian papers and then shipped into the country from outside. Any goods so shipped will be held up by the custom house. Any preparation may be entered and sold if the exact composition is stated on the package. In commenting upon this regulation, the *Circular* passes out some very bitter truths to the medical profession. The articles listed are mostly French, but "There are some American, and we note with satisfaction that these include not only such common medicines as 'pink pills' but likewise embrace remedies that American medical men, of a certain stripe, have been in the habit of prescribing, such as bromidia.

"The trouble with such doctors is their utter disregard for the pockets of their patients and their equal callousness regarding the interests of mankind as a whole. They are either so thoughtless that they do not see the professional sin they are guilty of or so mercenary that they do not care what interests may suffer if they can gain what they are after. The thoughtless doctor looks upon this phase of medical ethics as a useless fad and is surprised when shown that his conduct is treason of the most despicable kind. To prescribe a secret remedy of any kind is to aid and abet the enemies of medical science, and tends toward making such a science impossible. His conduct is of a kind that if practiced by all would stop medical progress absolutely, bind it in the bonds of ignorance, and work for the future destruction of myriads of human beings.

"Secrecy is a respectable cloak for falsehood, extortion, and conditions that degrade. It is darkness, pure and simple, and none love it unless their deeds require its covering.

"The secrecy that envelopes the proprietary medicine industry injures the sick, injures the public, injures the pharmacist and injures the physician."

Course of Instruction in Public Health.

The authorities of the University of Pennsylvania realize the efforts which are being made in communities throughout the country to obtain officials who have had some special training in matters pertaining to public health. Each year the demands for men of this type (either as chiefs of departments or in some subordinate position) is increased, and at the present time there is a lack of men qualified to fill such positions. To meet the needs of such instruction, the University will introduce into its curriculum, beginning October 1, 1905, a full course in public health.

Curious Law in Ohio.

Mr. Noah J. Dever, of Portsmouth, Ohio, is the author of a very interesting article published in the January number of the *Columbus Medical Journal*, on the subject of the relations of physicians to the law. We quote the following:

"Any physician who administers any poisonous drug or medicine to another while in a state of intoxication subjects himself to a fine of \$100.00, and imprisonment for twenty days; administering any secret drug to another subjects himself to the same penalty."

If the emphasized portion of this law were to be rigidly applied, one cannot help but wonder how many physicians in the State of Ohio would be minus \$100.00 or find themselves in jail. As it is said that 80% of doctors prescribe the numerous nostrums, or secret proprietaries, Ohio might find itself compelled to get along for twenty days with but 20% of its regular quota of doctors.